



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - October 22, 2002**

- ***In the West***, mild, dry weather supports autumn fieldwork, but moisture reserves remain limited for winter wheat establishment.
- ***On the Plains***, a wintry mix of precipitation falls on the ***central and northern High Plains***, boosting topsoil moisture while offering winter wheat some protection from unseasonable cold. Lows in the single digits F this morning in ***eastern Montana*** may cause some burn back of unprotected tender vegetation. Scattered showers in the ***southern Plains*** favor winter wheat establishment but likely cause only minor summer crops harvest delays.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, precipitation is ending in the ***upper Midwest***, but locally heavy snow cover and soggy fields still hamper corn and soybean harvests. Meanwhile, mostly dry, albeit cool weather aids corn and soybean harvesting in the ***Ohio Valley*** but slows winter wheat growth.
- ***In the South***, showers continue to develop along a stationary front stretching from ***Texas to the Carolinas***. Highs in the 70s degrees F favor winter wheat development and pastures. Patchy shower activity is keeping ***Delta*** cotton unfavorably damp.

**Outlook:** Over the next few days, a strong cold front will push south across the ***Great Plains*** and bring moderate to heavy rainfall to the ***southern Plains*** and ***Delta***. Behind the front, significant snow is expected across ***South Dakota*** and ***Nebraska***, while unseasonably cold air affects the ***northern Rockies*** and ***northern Plains***. During the latter half of the week, showers will spread east into the ***Southeast*** and ***Mid-Atlantic***. Dry weather will persist on the ***West Coast***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for October 27-31 features above-normal precipitation across the ***southern tier of States***, while drier than-normal conditions persist in the ***Pacific Northwest, upper Midwest, and northern New England***. Temperatures are expected to remain below-normal across ***much of the Nation***, except for seasonable readings in the ***Far West*** and along the ***Gulf Coast***.

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